

Washington, D.C. – Congressman Jeff Fortenberry has selected 13 students from eastern Nebraska to receive nominations to America's top military academies.

"A military academy appointment is both a high honor and a great responsibility," Fortenberry said. "Nominees must demonstrate sound character, rigorous scholarship, and capacity for leadership. I am pleased to nominate several young Nebraskans who meet these qualifications."

Following are the 2009 nominees:

Zachary Cottle from Omaha Skutt Catholic High School. Zachary is the son of Larry and Nova Cottle and has been nominated to the United States Military Academy.

Dillon Dawson of Blair High School. Dillon is the son of William and Jeanne Dawson and has been nominated to the United States Naval Academy.

Kyle Eckert of Norfolk Senior High School. Kyle is the son of David and Jean Eckert and has been nominated to the United States Military Academy.

Andrew Edwards from Lincoln Southeast High School. Andrew is the son of Brian and Kathy Edwards and has been nominated to the United States Naval and Air Force Academies.

Erin Kocher from Lincoln Southwest High School. Erin is the daughter of Michael and Jodi Kocher and has been nominated to the United States Military Academy.

Ted Kocher from Lincoln Southwest High School. Ted is the son of Michael and Jodi Kocher and has been nominated to the United States Military Academy.

Jacob Pond of Lyons-Decatur High School. Jacob is the son of Roger and Katy Pond and has been nominated to the United States Air Force Academy.

Ory Schuman of Lincoln High School. Ory is the son of Natalie Schuman and Brad Schuman and has been nominated to the United States Air Force Academy.

Kenny Stratton from Seward High School. Kenny is the son of Leslie Stratton and Monty Stratton and has been nominated to the United States Naval Academy.

Timothy Weber from Lincoln Pius X High School. Timothy is the son of Tim Weber and Angela Yans and has been nominated to the United States Merchant Marine and Naval Academies.

Dylan Woldt from Lincoln East High School. Dylan is the son of Wayne and Holly Woldt and has been nominated to the United States Air Force Academy.

Alyssa Wolken from Beatrice High School. Alyssa is the daughter of Larry and Jillene Wolken

## **Fortenberry Announces Military Academy Nominees**

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and has been nominated to the United States Naval Academy.

Aaron Wurster from Lincoln Pius X High School. Aaron is the son of Doug and Susan Wurster and has been nominated to the United States Air Force, Military, Naval, and Merchant Marine Academies.

The military academies will now consider each nominee for an appointment.

“I expect these individuals will well represent Nebraska in their future endeavors,” Fortenberry said. “Please join me in congratulating them for their exceptional achievements.”

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